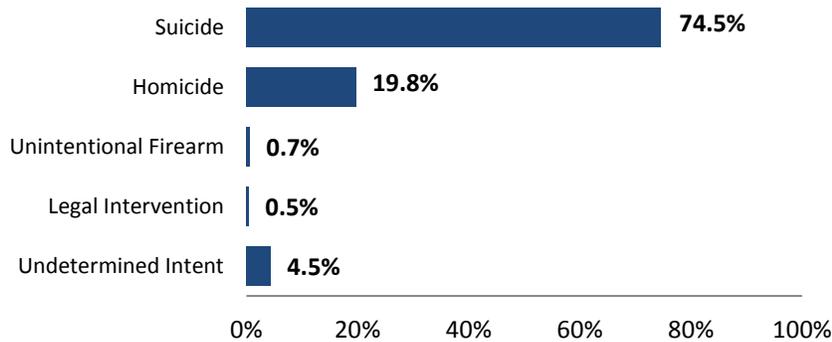


VIOLENT DEATH IN NORTH CAROLINA: BUNCOMBE COUNTY INCIDENTS, 2007-2016

The North Carolina Violent Death Reporting System (NC-VDRS) is a CDC-funded statewide surveillance system that collects detailed information on deaths that occur in North Carolina resulting from violence: homicide, suicide, unintentional firearm deaths, legal intervention and deaths for which intent could not be determined. NC-VDRS is a multi-source system that gathers information from death certificates, medical examiner reports and law enforcement reports. The goal of this system is to aid researchers, legislators, and community interest groups in the development of public health prevention strategies to reduce violent deaths. All deaths reported in this document are based on location of occurrence rather than residence and, instead of a rate, the occurrence ratio is reported. This statistic is derived from the total number of violent deaths resulting from injuries in a specified geographic region divided by the number of residents in this region. This document summarizes all fatal injuries from violence that occurred in Buncombe County for the years 2007-2016.

Manner of Death: Buncombe County, N.C.:
NC-VDRS, 2007-2016*

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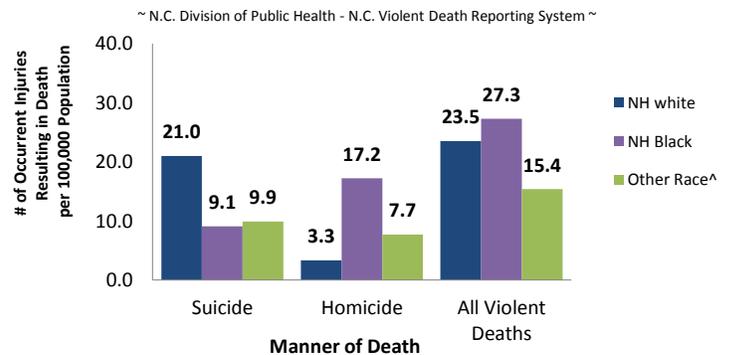
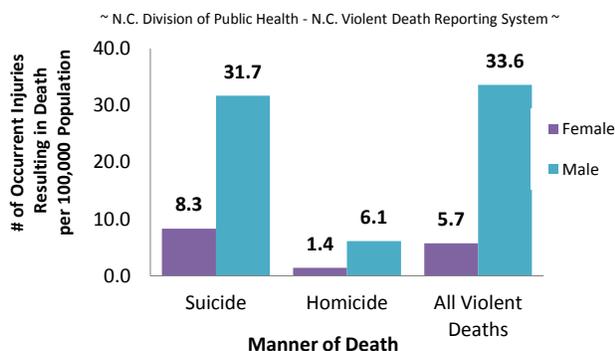


- For the years 2007-2016, there were 561 violent deaths from injuries sustained in Buncombe County. Of these 561 deaths, 540 were N.C. residents (96.3%) and 509 were Buncombe County residents (90.7%).

- There were 418 suicides (74.5%), 111 homicides (19.8%), 4 unintentional firearm deaths (0.7%), 3 deaths from legal intervention (0.5%) and 25 deaths of

*Based on the county of injury occurrence.

- In Buncombe County, the suicide ratio was 3.8 times higher in males than females, and the homicide ratio was 4.4 times higher in males than in females.
- Patterns of suicide and homicide differed by race. Suicide victims were more likely to be non-Hispanic (NH) White than non-Hispanic Black. NH whites had 21.0 suicides per 100,000 population versus 9.1 suicides per 100,000 population in NH Blacks. All other racial groups combined had 14 suicides.
- In contrast, NH Blacks had 17.2 homicides per 100,000 population as opposed to NH whites who had 3.3 homicides per 100,000 population. All other racial groups combined had 14 homicides.



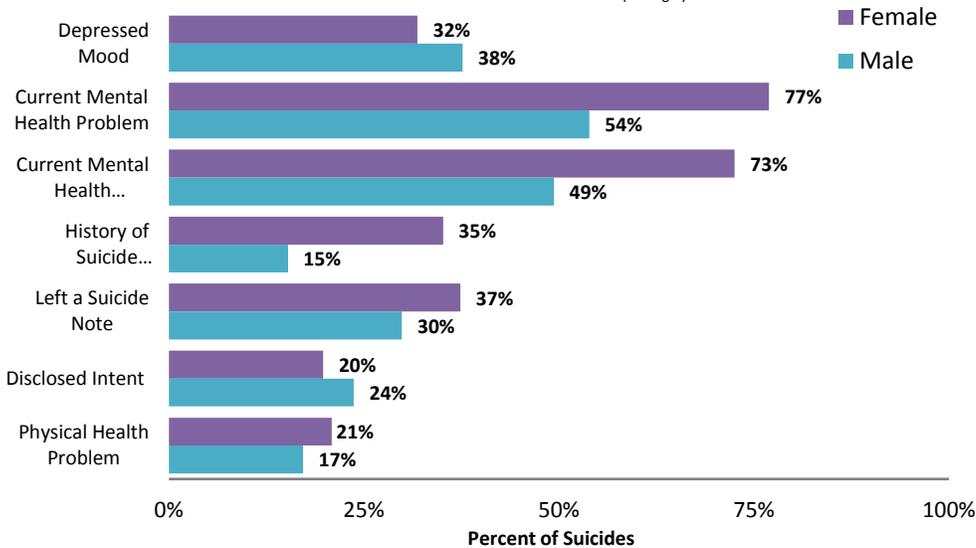
*Based on the county of injury occurrence.

^Other race refers to Hispanics, American Indians, Asians, other races, and unspecified or unknown race.

- Suicides and homicides displayed dissimilar age patterns. Homicides peaked among those 20-24 with 10.3 homicides per 100,000, where suicides peaked among those 45-54 with 28.1 suicides per 100,000.
- Nearly half of homicides (53.2%) and suicides (48.8%) were committed using firearms.
- Suspicion of intoxication was reported in 35.1 percent of homicides and 24.6 percent of suicides.
- For homicide incidents where one or more suspects were identified, the relationship of the victim to the suspect was known (current or former spouse/boyfriend/girlfriend, family, friend or acquaintance) more frequently for female (85.7%) than male (67.4%) victims.

Circumstances of Suicides: Buncombe County, N.C.: NC-VDRS, 2007-2016*

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- 38 percent of male and 31.9 percent of female Buncombe County suicide victims with circumstance information were characterized as being currently depressed when they completed suicide.

- 77 percent of female and 53.9 percent of male suicide victims were characterized as having a current mental health problem.

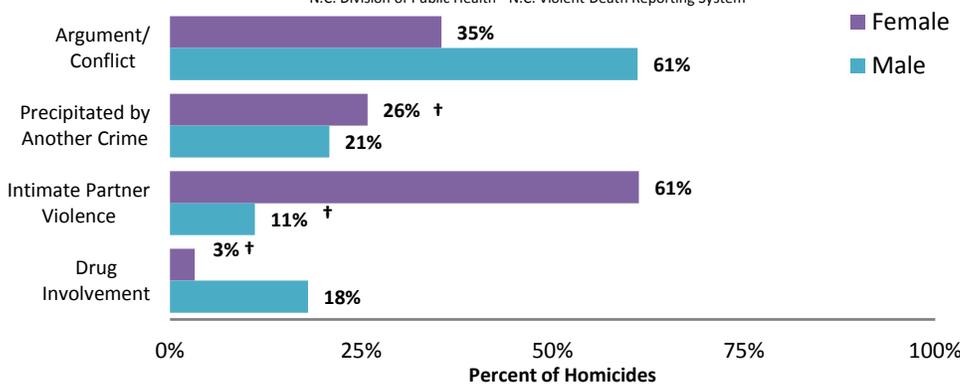
- Females (35.2%) were more likely to have attempted suicide in the past as compared to males (15.3%).

*Based on the county of injury occurrence. 95.5% of cases had circumstance information. 2 females and 17 males were missing circumstance information.

†There were less than or equal to 10 deaths

Circumstances of Homicides: Buncombe County, N.C.: NC-VDRS, 2007-2016*

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- Arguments or conflicts were more likely to be a contributing factor for male homicides (61.1%) than for female homicides (35.5%).

- 25.8 percent of female homicides and 20.8 percent of male homicides were precipitated by another crime such as robbery, burglary or drug trafficking.

- Intimate partner violence was a contributing factor in 61.3 percent of female homicides, but only 11.1 percent of male homicides.

*Based on the county of injury occurrence. 92.8% of cases had circumstance information. 5 males and 3 females were missing circumstance information.

†There were less than or equal to 10 deaths

The North Carolina Violent Death Reporting System is supported by Cooperative Agreement 5NU17/CE002613-05-00 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).



NC DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Division of Public Health

North Carolina Violent Death
NC VDRS
Reporting System

N.C. Division of Public Health / www.publichealth.nc.gov / Injury Epidemiology & Surveillance Unit/ 919-707-5425

N.C. Violent Death Reporting System / 919-707-5432

State of North Carolina / Department of Health and Human Services / www.ncdhhs.gov

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Please see the NC-VDRS 2016 Annual Report for additional data and technical information.